

# The Grail



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## ONE REASON FOR OUR EXISTENCE

The British Ambassador, Sir Auckland Geddes, recently said:

"The next fifty years are going to be the most glorious or the most disastrous in the history of the world. The present generation cannot hope to see a successful end to the world revolution now in progress. The way out of world turmoil must be led by those who keep in view three essentials, **Beauty, Service and Truth**. Keeping these three in view, civilization will sail safely. Let one be occulted and civilization is in danger. Let two be occulted and peril is nigh. Let three be occulted and civilization fails. Thus Babylon fell, thus Egypt, thus Rome and doubt not, fell all the civilizations of the past. So today civilization totters."

Many of our readers have heard in our lectures that the Rosicrucian teachings are prepared around and upon a basis that is as devoid of theories or hypotheses as is possible; and our high degree members know that it has been our greatest ambition to make fewer positive statements and have these based upon knowledge than to give a great many statements and admit afterwards that they were guesses or presumptions. We have called your attention to the fact that science, today, yesterday, like unto last century, is filled with theories, and that it changes these theories, modifies them or makes them obsolete on short notice. We have stated also that some of science's fundamental propositions relating to the most important things in our lives and purporting to explain the most vital and interesting conditions of our existence, and the existence of our universe and the operation of nature's laws, are theories and not to be considered as laws, or facts. We have been criticized for making this statement and some have smiled and said that we could not prove this statement. But, now let us call your attention to what we read in one of the universally recognized authorities of scientific matters, put upon the market within the past two years and being used by researchers and scientific persons as indisputable authority. In true Rosicrucian spirit we will not mention the name of the publication nor the author

making the following statements. We are quoting from an explanation of the nature and cause of "Tides" and being interested in what relation man had to the tides we were surprised to read the following statements. After making an explicit statement of how both the Sun and the Moon pull the waters of the earth and do so in inharmonious periods and relationship, and after going into very minute facts of heights, depths, and all the technicalities that would puzzle the average investigator, we come to this very beautiful expression of the scientific mind:

"The foregoing explanation is called the equilibrium theory of the tides. It is very plausible, but unfortunately it fails to agree with the observed facts, though it is nevertheless of great use in leading up to a better theory. \* \* \* Unfortunately, this theory is not in accord with observation. There are places where the high water comes as much as six hours away from the meridian passage of the moon. In other words, this equilibrium theory is at times in error by the maximum possible amount. The trouble is that it tells us what would happen if the forces governing the tides had plenty of time to act."

Now we ask our members to stop and think and mentally say to themselves what they would say to us in letters and otherwise if any one of our lectures closed one of its scientific explanations with any such apology as this. And what would science say of us as mystics if we admitted that one of our explanations contained in it an error of the maximum possible amount? After all, is it scientific knowledge we want or merely that simple, beautiful, unpainted, unmeasurable, uncenotaphed thing called Truth.

## IS PRESIDENT HARDING A MYSTIC?

We know that our President is a Free-mason, but he is also a mystic essentially, for read what he said recently:

"I believe in prayer. I believe in prayer in the closet, for then one faces God alone. I can understand how these Prophets of old, in their anxiety, problems and perturbations

and perplexities, found courage and strength when they gave their hearts to the 'Great Omnipotent' in prayer."

It is easy to picture the occasion when this statement was made and to whom, and why.

### LODGE ITEMS

In one of the high degree convocations when the members were sitting in soft blue light concentrating and watching the various centres of violet lights pass through the room, one of the brothers noticed that a brother sitting near him was breathing so deeply as to affect the violet lights that came near him. Reaching over and tapping the brother on the brother quickly spoke and said: "Oh, I am not asleep, I am simply practicing some deep breathing principles." Then the other replied: "Oh, I did not think you were asleep, but your breathing is blowing out my lights."

In the mail received at headquarters in the past week were several interesting letters, extracts from which we give now:

From The Unity School of Christianity, Kansas City: "It is our pleasure to bless your good work, and to unite with you in the Spirit of loving service for humanity."

From the Rector of one of the largest Memorial Episcopal Churches in a large Eastern city: "Let me assure you of my continued appreciation of the splendid work you are doing in leading souls through the Gates of Truth."

From the editorial department of a large weekly devoted to improving conditions in America comes the request for more information regarding the great work we are doing.

From Calcutta, India, came a letter signed by the Supreme Magus of the R. C. Illuminati of the Orient, in which letter the usual greetings and acknowledgment of fraternal relationship preceded congratulations on our work and increasing power.

In another letter from Vienna, Austria, there is a request for more intimate relations between our American Order and a very old group still existing under a charter granted by the Christian Rosenkreutz Council.

And, from Paris, France, has come a request for the establishment of a small Lodge under our direction for those who visit Paris. The request is signed by one who is a member of the Order in France and connected with the Masonic Grand Orient of France.

We wish to announce that new membership certificates are to be issued to all members of the Order in America who are now in or above the Fourth Grade. These certificates are in Latin and are issued under the name and power of the International Order R. C.

Two representatives of our Order will visit certain R. C. Lodges in Europe this summer officially presenting and receiving certain papers and documents. The importance of these matters will be revealed in September or October.

Some of our members have sent us circulars which are being distributed by a publishing and supply company in New York, wherein a book on Rosicrucian Symbols is advertised as being "an authoritative treatise on constructive symbolism by the Imperator of the American branch of the Rosicrucian Brotherhood." All of which is very misleading. For instance: We have a copy of the book among our relics of Rosicrucian pretensions, and nowhere on the title page or elsewhere in the book can be found the statement that it was written or authorized by "The Imperator of the American Branch of the Rosicrucian Brotherhood." In fact, the author's name is veiled behind a coined, symbolic name and all the early advertising of the book gave this same odd name as the name of the author. Furthermore the movement originated by the author and still fostered by him as a prolific entelechy of mystic books, has always announced itself under a different title than the rather indefinite though insinuating title of "American Branch of the Rosicrucian Brotherhood." It is quite evident that he who prepared the circular believed that it would be more profitable to announce the authorship in this new fashion because many are easily mistaken in their comprehension of names and titles. There was a time when this author and his organization criticised the title "Imperator" and claimed that it was outside the pale of Rosicrucian terminology. But today,—ah, that is different! Surely none of our members will be fooled, but what of the seekers who are dazzled by an attractive title, high-sounding words and tempting indications?

The new issue of the Little Brown Casket has been completed in a new and attractive form with some slight additions to fit our new form of propaganda. There has been such a continued request for this new edition that we do not expect the present edition to last very long. Thousands of copies would be used the first month if we were to ship the new edition in quantities to each lodge as we have heretofore, but we will now await the expressed desires of each Lodge. Inform your Lodge Master or Secretary if you are planning to use many copies of the Little Brown Casket, so that each Lodge will know how many to have shipped.

Someone in the Grand Lodge of Florida has designed and had printed a very attractive paper seal to paste over the flaps of envelopes. It has a gold cross in the centre containing a red rose and bears the legend in

gold "Ad Rosam per Crucem." We have not discovered who is responsible for this pretty device, but we shall learn, psychically or otherwise.

Bro. Irwin Winterhalder, the Swiss sculptor whose huge statue "The End of the Trail" was admired by millions at the Panama-Pacific Exposition in San Francisco, and is reproduced in photographs and wall plaques in every city, is engaged now in making eight large wall panels in relief, depicting in Egyptian figures and hieroglyphs the principle events and features of our Order and its work. The panels will be donated to the California Grand Lodge and arrangements will be made to have duplicates for any Lodge desiring to decorate their own Temples with them.

Those of our members who have for a year or more sought from headquarters the recommendation of an efficient, sincere and dependable astrologer connected with our Order and worthy of the confidences necessarily placed in his hands, will be glad to know that we now recommend he who has become an associate of the Executive Staff as well as Official Astrologer to the Imperator. He is prepared to calculate and mathematically inscribe a birth map for those who desire it and render an interesting, enlightening and helpful reading of the symbolical indications and situations found therein according to the true and ancient system of astrology. Please write direct to him for his terms and requisite data. Address: Mr. Howard Breeding, 1255 Market Street, San Francisco, California.

We would suggest that if you have never had a true and conscientious astrological delineation of your life or character made, that you have one made. It opens a new vista and teaches many wonderful principles which your bias or prejudice toward astrology may have kept from your understanding. To know one's natural though undeveloped or half-developed abilities, to have suggested one's greatest talents and fortitudes as well as one's weaknesses, is unquestionably a great help, making for success and more rapid progress in this period of evolution. To know also when and how the greatest success may attend one's endeavors through co-operation with natural or planetary laws is even more important. Parents should not overlook the value of such a character delineation of their children as a guide for the present and future.

The Grand Lodge of Florida is planning to have its own Temple and the scheme includes an attractive reading room as well as an office for the Grand Secretary.

The Supreme Grand Master is arranging to move his office and home to San Francisco so as to be in closer contact with the work and

with the greatly increased activities of the order due to the unusual stimulus that has come to it during the past six months. We will hail with great delight the close companionship and help of our beloved Brother.

The Grand Lodge of Massachusetts has recently changed some of the features of its Temple and have added an additional office to their suite of rooms for the convenience of their members. The Lodge is growing with enthusiasm and in number of members.

The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania reports increased activity among its members in the various lines of work and are making arrangements for increased membership.

A large Lodge is being organized in St. Louis with the help of a number of our members who are located there and who are giving a great deal of time to the establishment of an important center of a large territory.

An interesting proposal regarding the new form of propaganda and the acceptance of the members into the order, and also bearing upon the initiation fees for new members is being submitted to all the Masters of the Lodges since they constitute the Supreme Council. Their vote upon this proposal will make it a law. All our members are urged to speak to the Master of the Lodge regarding the changes contained in this proposal before they invite seekers to become members of our order and in this way avoid any error in regard to initiation fees and the method of accepting new members.

If any of our members have any music written for, or suitable for, the cello, which they feel they can dispose with, it would be appreciated if they would send it to Headquarters addressed to the Supreme Secretary.

News regarding Lodges is scarce this month because Lodges have not appointed a reporter in each group to send us items and we wish that this would be done right away because we want to make the Triangle brim full of interesting items regarding each Lodge, the activities of its members, or personal matters of interest to all.

If any of our members have bound sets of Ephemerides (Astrological Almanacs) which they no longer have any use for and would care to send them to Headquarters, they would be very much appreciated.

The New York Grand Lodge has elaborated upon the plan of holding a monthly general meeting of members and hereafter will add music and an appropriate form of entertainment and refreshments. This plan should be adopted by every Lodge even if such special monthly meetings are held at some home or at some other special place so that the mem-

bers will have an opportunity of becoming better acquainted and fraternizing upon a social basis. We note that some of the eastern lodges during the summer time hold monthly outings or trolley trips and this plan might be made more general in localities where there is warm and pleasant weather in the summer.

The Master of the Delta Lodge in Philadelphia has invited the members of the New York Grand Lodge to come to Philadelphia and spend a day visiting some interesting and historical sites in Fairmont Park.

The Grand Lodge of Michigan at Flint will hold two initiations of new members during the month of May and report that they do not intend to close their Lodge for the summer despite the warm weather.

#### MONTHLY PRAYER

The prayer for this month is taken from the very old and authentic ritual of the Mithriac Cult, a complete copy of which ritual was found in the great Paris Magic Papyrus in the Bibliotheque Nationale and is of the fourth century A. D.

"Hear Me, My Father, Father of all fatherhood, Boundless Light, Who are in the Treasure of Light! May the Supporters come, who serve the Seven Virgins of Light who preside over the Baptism of Life! May they come and baptize My disciples with the Water of Life of the Seven Virgins of Light, and wash away their sins and purify their iniquities, and number them among the heirs of the Kingdom of Light!"

So many of our members are familiar with only the last two lines of this poem that we thought it well to publish it in full:

#### THE CAPTAIN OF MY SOUL

Out of the night that covers me,  
Black as the pit from pole to pole,  
I thank whatever Gods there be  
For my unconquerable Soul.

In the fell clutch of circumstance  
I have not winced nor cried aloud,  
Under the bludgeonings of chance,  
My head is bloody, but unbowed.  
Beyond this place of wrath and tears,  
Looms but the horror of the shade,  
And yet the spectre of the years,  
Finds and shall find me unafraid.

It matters not how strait the gate  
How charged with punishment the scroll,  
I am the Master of my fate,  
I am the Captain of my Soul.

—Henley.

#### APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

Those desiring to receive the teachings of this order and wishing to become a member of one of the weekly study groups or enter one

of the higher Lodges should write to the Headquarters in California for application blank and information. Study Groups are becoming more numerous each month and we cannot possibly mention them all in this small paper.

\* \* \*

A new book has been published by the Egyptian Exploration Society in Boston, Massachusetts, entitled The Rock Tombs of El Amarna. The book contains many of Amenhotep's hymns and writings, for it must be remembered that it was he who built the city of El Amarna and who had most of the mystical writings engraved upon the walls of the Temple and Tombs there so as to be preserved for the future. We are delighted with the fact that some of the hymns which appear in this official book, and given to the reading public for the first time, are identical with those which are found in the rituals we have been using for some years. Within recent years this man's life has become of intense interest to the philosophical and religious world, and we hope to see him given the proper credit and praise as well as adoration due a man so great as he.

\* \* \*

We hear so much these days about Black Magic and sometimes the words are spelled with a capital B and a capital M. The term is dignified because it represents an unknown element. It is so ridiculous. We have pointed out in our magazines of the past that the only power that resides in Black Magic is in the fear that each person may have of it. It should never be given thought, never even admitted to have existence, and we would be justified in excommunicating from our Lodges and our Groups those members who like to use the term, and try to instill fear of it in the hearts and minds of others. The only destructive process that might be called Black Magic is that process which reverts upon and consumes and destroys the person who is attempting to send forth evil toward another, but this is not Black Magic, it is Nature's White Magic for teaching men a great lesson, and should teach us that we need have no fear or even need to protect ourselves against the evil intentions of others so long as we live uprightly and do our best at all times.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT

It is our plan to slightly increase the size of the Triangle beginning with a near issue by adding an insert sheet on which will be published two long articles, the one being a story for the children of our members to read, giving them helpful principles and the other important points to our members in regard to the Rosicrucian method of educating children. We trust our members will put these triangles in places where they will fall into the hands of seekers and thereby do good missionary work.